

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE
Date: May 7, 2007

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N.C. VOLUNTEER COMMISSION HONORS FIRST RECIPIENTS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA MEDALLION FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE

RALEIGH – The North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service today honored the first recipients of the North Carolina Medallion for Outstanding Volunteer Service. This new award honors the top 20 volunteers in the state for their significant contributions to their communities through volunteer service.

"Congratulations to these 20 volunteers in North Carolina for their hard work and dedication to our state," said Easley. "These volunteers have spent countless hours in schools, churches and other organizations so that the compelling needs in our communities do not go unmet. They are great role models and examples for all of us."

Recipients were honored at a luncheon at Magnolia Manor in Colfax and received a medallion and a certificate in recognition of their service. Pattie Petty, CEO of the Victory Junction Gang Camp and wife of NASCAR driver Kyle Petty, was the guest speaker. Each county nominated one volunteer whose service was evaluated by a panel of community service leaders from across the state.

This recognition is part of the N.C. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service program, which recognizes individuals, groups, teams and businesses that make a significant contribution to their community through volunteer service. Since the program began in 1978, more than 15,700 individuals have been recognized for their service. County coordinators and local selection committees receive and evaluate the nominations.

The N.C. Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service is a federal and state-funded agency in the Governor's Office. For more information on the N.C. Medallion for Outstanding Volunteer Service or the N.C. Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service, visit <u>www.volunteernc.org</u>, or for information about the recipients, contact the respective county coordinator who oversees the nomination process.

Following are this year's recipients and county coordinator information:

Alamance County:

Recipient: Crystal Sharpe

County Coordinator: Ruth Pruitt, 336-438-2000

Brunswick County:

Recipients: David and Mary Biesack

County Coordinator: Jayne Mathews, 910-253-2412

Alleghany County:

Recipient: Bonnie Vaughan

County Coordinator: Bob Bamberg, 336-372-5473

Carteret County:

Recipient: Ellis Jones

County Coordinator: Dora Irving, 252-223-1652

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